THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have informed that a study on the reach and impact of DD-India Channel in Middle-East countries is on the anvil.

(c) Prasar Bharati have informed that DD-India carries news bulletins, features on topical events, entertainment programmes, features films, music and dance including children programmes in some regional languages. The contents medley of DD-India Channel is expected to serve the interests and needs of the Indian diaspors.

Channel on Science and Technology/Environment and Forests

1703. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a 24-hour channel on Science and Technology/Environment and Forests on the lines of National Geographic and Discovery;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when the new channel would be set up; and

(d) the details of the programme that it would telecast?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Prasar Bharati have informed that they have to such plan to set up a 24-hour channel on Science and Technology/Environment and Forests, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Environment and Forests also have not proposal at present to set up such a channel.

Opinion and perspective of children

1704. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that television media ignores the opinions and perspectives of children and children's programming is never a priority for the TV media;

(b) whether there is also a complaint and information relevant to children is not presented in ways that they can understand;